

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A switching valve for causing refrigerant introduced into an inlet port to flow selectively to a first outlet port or a second outlet port, characterized
5 by comprising:

a first valve that is disposed in a flow passage between said inlet port and said first outlet port, and controlled by a solenoid, for opening and closing said
10 flow passage; and

a second valve that includes a valve seat disposed between said inlet port and said second outlet port, a valve element capable of moving to and away from said valve seat, a passage for introducing pressure from said first outlet port to a surface of said valve element
15 opposite to a surface of said valve element opposed to said valve seat, a spring for urging said valve element toward said valve seat, and a slidable sealing member disposed in a sliding portion of said valve element.

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2. The switching valve according to claim 1, wherein said sealing member is an X packing.

3. A switching valve for causing refrigerant introduced into an inlet port to flow selectively to a first outlet port or a second outlet port, characterized
25 in that:

the switching valve comprises a solenoid-operated first valve that opens and closes a refrigerant passage between said inlet port and said first outlet port, and a second valve that is disposed in a refrigerant passage
5 between said inlet port and said second outlet port, and is opened by a differential pressure generated by closing of said first valve, and

that said second valve has a slidable sealing mechanism sealing between a downstream side of said first
10 valve and a downstream side of said second valve.

4. A switching valve for causing refrigerant introduced into an inlet port to flow selectively to a first outlet port or a second outlet port, characterized
15 in that:

the switching valve comprises a solenoid-operated first valve that opens and closes a refrigerant passage between said inlet port and said first outlet port, and a second valve that is disposed in a refrigerant passage
20 between said inlet port and said second outlet port, and is opened by a differential pressure generated by closing of said first valve, and

that said second valve has a slidable sealing mechanism sealing between a downstream side of said first
25 valve and a upstream side of said second valve.

5. A switching valve for causing refrigerant

introduced into an inlet port to flow selectively to a first outlet port or a second outlet port, characterized by comprising:

a solenoid-operated first valve that opens and
5 closes a refrigerant passage between said inlet port and said first outlet port;

a second valve that is disposed in a refrigerant passage between said inlet port and said second outlet port, and is opened by a differential pressure generated
10 by closing of said first valve; and

a third valve for isolating a sliding portion of said second valve and a back pressure chamber for said second valve, from each other, thereby sealing between a downstream side of said first valve and an upstream side
15 of said second valve, when said second valve is opened.

6. The switching valve according to claim 5, wherein said third valve has an annular projection integrally formed with a valve element of said second valve on a side
20 of said second valve toward a back pressure chamber, and a valve seat disposed in a manner opposed to said annular projection such that said valve seat surrounds an opening of a passage communicating with the downstream side of said first valve, which opens into said back pressure
25 chamber.